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William C. Pierce, Esq.

Dear Mr. Pierce:

Re: Estate of Allen W. Dulles, Deceased

You will recall that after our conference with you and others concerned we took physical possession of all but a few of the documents which were found in Mr. Dulles' home on Q Street after his death. The few that remain are clearly personal and have no relation to our interests.

We have now completed a survey of the documents in our possession and propose the following disposition by categories:

Category I

These are papers which are clearly identified as being from the files of the Office of Strategic Services (OSS). It was not unusual to make these available to Mr. Dulles on short-term loans in connection with some of the books he published having to do with OSS work, but they are

clearly Government property. As the records of OSS have not been released for public inspection, we feel these papers should be retained in the OSS files, which are in our custody.

Category II

These are certain documents which are clearly from the files of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA). They consist of special intelligence studies or similar material which, again, was made available to Mr. Dulles to assist in his writings. These items are still classified and should be retained as part of the CIA files as Government property.

Category III

This is the most difficult category to define and has been carefully culled over. It consists of letters or memoranda to Mr. Dulles which do not bear any classification stamp and, even though addressed to him by name, appear to have been sent to him in his capacity as Director of Central Intelligence. Even though not technically classified, they appear to be the raw material of intelligence.

some of which is still sensitive as to subject matter, and some of which comes from sources who, unless we learn to the contrary, we believe would not like to be identified as CIA sources. Luckily, this category is quite small. It consists of several folders, and we believe it should be retained until we can make further determinations as to whether it is Government property and whether it is in whole or in part no longer sensitive. I am sorry I cannot give an accurate estimate of what the time will be, although from past experience I would think it would be at least some years before any of it can be released.

Category IV

This consists of the greater body of the papers which were clearly Mr. Dulles' and have no classification or sensitivity from the Agency's point of view. These can be made available shortly, but we will be glad to hold them until you are ready to tell us where you want them sent.

We also have in our possession certain medals, decorations, and other items which we found after Mr. Dulles' death and which we would be glad to dispose of in accordance with your directions.

Sincerely,

Lawrence R. Houston
General Counsel